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SIPDIS

BAGHDAD FOR AMBASSADOR ERELI

E.O. 12958: DECL: 01/11/2019
TAGS: [PREL](#) [ASEC](#) [PGOV](#) [IR](#) [BA](#)
SUBJECT: BAHRAIN-IRAN POLICE AGREEMENT

REF: A. 08 MANAMA 835
[1](#)B. RIYADH 61

Classified By: CDA Christopher Henzel for reasons 1.4 (b) and (d).

[1](#)1. (C) Bahrain and Iran signed an agreement December 25 establishing procedures for communication between interior ministries on law enforcement issues, re-activating an agreement originally signed in 2003.

[1](#)2. (C) Interior Minister Rashid bin Abdullah Al-Khalifa signed the agreement during a visit to Tehran, accompanying Foreign Minister Khalid bin Ahmed. Sheikh Rashid had indicated prior to the visit that Iran had sought a visit for some time and that given the smuggling problems Bahrain faces, re-activating the 2003 law enforcement cooperation agreement would be an appropriate deliverable. The FM confirmed the substance of the agreement to the CDA on December 27 (ref A).

[1](#)3. (C) Comment: The GOB remains wary of Iran. It believes that smuggling (primarily drugs and other contraband) originating from Iran is a threat, and re-activating the cooperation agreement will provide an avenue to press Tehran on the issue.

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